the reservation office in Delhi area to detect and apprehend touts. During the period 1-11-1986 to 16-4-1987, 91 touts were apprehended and prosecuted. Checks are also conducted in running trains and persons found travelling on transfered tickets are penalised as per law to act as a deterrent against purchase of tickets from unauthorised sources. Besides, strict watch is maintained over railway staff and those found indulging in malpractices are punished suitably.

Rail passes to freedom fighters

1143. SHRI CITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for issuing free railway passes to the freedom fighters

(b) whether it is a fact that freedom fighters who are recognised and received their pension from respective State Governments are not entitled for free railway passes; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Freedom Fighters who are receiving pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme from Central Government are being issued First Class Complimentary Card Passes in favour of self and one companion valid for a period of one year from the date of issue.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The present scheme, decided in consultation with the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, does not cover the freedom fighters receiving pension from the State Governments.

Conversion of Miraj-Latur Rail Line into Broad Gauge

1144. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey undertaken by Railways to convert the Narrow Gauge Miraj-Latur railway line in Maharashtra into Broad-Gauge has been completed and the work on the conversion of the line has already started;

(b) if so, what is the amount spent on this work so far, and when it is likely to be completed;

(c) whether any survey was also done to connect Latur with Latur Board; and

(d) if so, when this work is likely to commence, and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Survey was completed in 1975. Conversion work has not been approved.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This work has not been approved.

Conversion of Manmad-Mudkhed railline into Broad-Gauge

1145. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to convert Metre Gauge railway line into Broad Gauge between Manmad-Mudkhed section of Marathwada (Maharashtra) region;

(b) what is the amount spent on this work so far;

(c) what is the progress of the work to date;

(d) what is the Budgetary allocation for this work during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(e) when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir. wo works viz. Manmad-Parli-Vaijnath and Parbhani-Mudkhed-Adilabad conversions are approved.

(b) Approximately Rs. 10.94 crores

(c) Work is physically taken up between Manmad-Aurangabad. Progress of this section is 36 per cent.

(d) Rs. 6 crores upto 1987-88. Allocation in 1988-89 and 1989-90 will depend on annual plan allocations for gauge conversions for these years.

(e) This will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

Air service between Hyderabad and New Delhi via Nanded

1146. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce air service between Hyderabad and New Delhi *via* Nanded;

(b) if so, when this service is likely to start; and

(c) whether the existing air-strip at Nanded airport is suitable for the Boeing flight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Cancer deaths in India

1147. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey of the number of persons who die every year due to cancer;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such deaths due to cancer every year;

(c) whether any breakthrough has so far been made in the country in the research regarding the medical disgnosis and treatment of different types of cancer; and

(d) if not, whether Government proposes to strengthen and update the diagnostic system and treatment techniques of cancer patient in the light of development in other advanced countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) No survey has been made to find out number of persons who die every year due to cancer, but the number of deaths recorded in specialised Cancer Hospital in the country during the year 1984 and 1985 were 20981 and 1481 respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A national Cancer Control Programme has been launched in India for primary prevention of cancer, diagnosis and treatment and distribution and extension of services through Regional Cancer Centres and Medical Colleges. Non-governmental organisations have also been involved in the programme. Realising that one third of the cancers are preventable and another one third of the cancer can be cured with a high percentage of survival if detected early, the emphasis of cancer research has been on primary prevention of tobacco related cancer and secondary prevention of cancer of uterine cervix. The preventive measures include educating the masses,statutory warning on cigarettee packets and advertisements promulgation laws by several State Governments prohibiting smoking in closed areas like cinemas, buses, educational institutions, hospitals etc.